



ALEXANDRIA.

SATURDAY EVENING, DECEMBER 17.

PRESIDENTS McCOSH, of Princeton College; Adams, of Cornell; Sumner, of Yale; Eliot, of Harvard; Barnard, of Columbia; and Potter, of Hobart, all, too, in the North, the manufacturing section of the country, the labor and products of which are protected by the tariff, and McBryde, of the University of South Carolina, unite in the highest possible commendation of the President's recent wise and just message, recommending the removal of the tariff on the necessities of life, and the retention of the tax on whiskey. But the Solons composing the Virginia legislature, representing the people of an agricultural State, the people whose labor and products are not protected by the existing tariff, so far from agreeing with the distinguished educators above mentioned on the subject referred to, differ with them entirely, take directly opposite grounds, and instruct Virginia's representatives in Congress to vote for the repeal of the tax on oleomargarine, so as to remove even the little protection that tax affords Virginia butter makers, and to take the tax off whiskey, so as to make that moral, mental and physical poison cheap, and increase its consumption. But, such things can be, now-a-days, without exciting special wonder.

On two farmers, living on adjoining lands, one raises cattle, the other, sheep. One is just as good a citizen as the other, and the Constitution provides that both shall have equal privileges and immunities. But, for all that, the latter is protected against foreign competition by a high tariff on wool, while the former, in the sale of his hides, has to compete with the cattle raisers of the entire world. Is there any justice in that? And yet that is only a fair sample of the injustice of the existing tariff. Then, too, to show the injurious effect of such a tariff upon the labor of the country, it is only necessary to mention the fact that while this country exports millions of dollars worth of leather and leather goods, its exports of wool and woolen goods amount to comparatively little or nothing. Being enabled to get untaxed raw material, American tanners and leather goods manufacturers can engage in profitable business, can employ large numbers of hands, and can compete successfully with foreign rivals in the markets of the world. All that the voters of this country need to make them demand the removal of the duty on raw material and the necessities of life, is that they shall understand the subject of the tariff.

THE WASHINGTON *Republican* says: "The Alexandria *Gazette* puts 'Zack' Chandler in the U. S. Senate." Oh, no! The *Gazette* doesn't do any such thing. The *Gazette* does say that Senator W. E. Chandler is the man who sent to Mr. Hayes the dispatch: "You have 185 votes and are elected." The proof that the *Republican*, a newspaper printed at the national capital, and named the "National" *Republican* too, is ignorant of that fact, is by no means conclusive to that paper's reputation for general intelligence. If the *Republican* will take the trouble to interview Mr. Chandler on the subject, it will learn that the *Gazette*, in this, as in most other things, is right. Why the late "Zack" Chandler did not send the dispatch, it is not necessary to say, now that he is dead.

How WILL it profit a poor widow with children to support, that though she shall continue to be taxed heavily on salt, sugar, clothing, fuel, medicine, and all the other necessities of life, she shall be permitted to buy whiskey and oleo margarine free of tax? And yet the Virginia legislature has passed a resolution to that effect.

THE WASHINGTON *Republican* says the *Gazette*'s recent statement, that the population of the South is composed almost entirely of ex-Confederates and their descendants, is incorrect. This, to Southern people, is a conspicuous instance of going away from home to hear home news.

FROM WASHINGTON.

[Special Correspondence of the Alexandria *Gazette*.]
WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 17, 1887.
The amount collected in Virginia under the direct tax law was \$515,567 72, which sum, if the bill for refunding the amount collected under the law referred to, now before Congress, shall pass, will be returned to Virginia as trustee for the parties from whom it was collected, or their heirs.
At a meeting of the Virginia democratic association of this city last night, a rousing low tariff speech was made by Mr. Robert McCandlish, of Middlesex county, Virginia, and a committee was appointed to consider the advisability of tendering Mr. Barbour a complimentary banquet after the announcement of his formal election as U. S. Senator.
Each of the South Atlantic States wants the member of the House river and harbor committee from that tier selected from among its representatives. Mr. Wise is being pushed for the place by the Virginians.
Geo. W. Rea, formerly of Richmond, who held a \$1200 place in the seal room of the U. S. House of Representatives, has been removed.
Among the petitions introduced in the House yesterday were the following by General Lee of the Alexandria district: For the relief of John W. Fairfax; and those of the citizens of Stone City, Garfield, Springman, Dranesville, Lincoln, Langley, and Vale, Fairfax county, Virginia; Waylandburg, Hudson's Mill, Ryland, and Homeland, Culpeper county; Grant Spring and Goldside, Orange county; Daysville, Loudoun county; Gum Spring and Harris's, Loudoun county; Leeland and Snellings, Stafford county; and Buckball, Prince William county, for an increase in the salaries of the postmasters at these places.

Representative Yost, republican, of the 7th Virginia district, being asked to-day what he thought of the fact that all the republicans in the Virginia legislature had endorsed General Mahone as the future leader of their party, said he was surprised at it, as it was directly at variance with the previous expressions of some of them, and that he still believed, notwithstanding the action referred to, that several of them were really opposed to General Mahone and would prove to be so. He said he was certain that action was not in accord with the feelings of their constituents and would not be sustained by the party throughout the State. Respecting the probable course his party in Congress would take on the revenue question, he said they had as yet determined upon no definite course, but the prevailing feeling among them is to support a simple bill for the removal of the tobacco tax.

Mr. Randall denies the report that he is in favor of the removal of the tax of 75 cents on coal, and says he is in favor of the retention of that tax—and it's moving, too.
The Attorney General has appointed Wm. I. Hill, of Marlboro, Md., to be an Assistant Attorney at \$2,500 per annum.
Neither house of Congress is in session to-day, and many of the members have already gone home for the holidays.

VIRGINIA NEWS.

General James C. Hill, State railroad commissioner, is confined at his home, in Scottsville, by an attack of malarial fever. The Virginia granite quarries, near Petersburg, have been leased by a New York firm, and will be worked on an extensive scale.
Eleven hundred and ninety-eight disabled Virginia Confederate soldiers and marines received each the past year \$60, aggregating \$71,880.

Miss Eliza Fletcher, of "Sherland Hall," near Middleburg, died last Thursday at her home, and was buried in the old family burial ground near Reckertown.
James S. Nock, who was recently convicted in the County Court of Accomac for violating the local opinion law and sent to jail for 30 days, has been pardoned by Governor Lee.

Mr. Sigons, a clerk for a real estate agent in Richmond has been fined in the Hustings Court \$100 and given one minute in jail for twice tendering the same coupons in payment of taxes. The defendant refused to pay the fine and is in jail. The case will probably be carried to the Supreme Court.

The Richmond *Dispatch* of to-day says: "The removal of the Richmond and Danville offices to Richmond has already begun. The assistant treasurer's office (Mr. John Hall's) was brought down from Washington yesterday and the controller's office is in transit. It is expected by the first part of January that all of them will be brought back."

The State Board of Education met in Roanoke yesterday to investigate charges which have been preferred against Prof. Smith, who occupies the chair of mathematics in the Virginia Normal and Collegiate Institute, at Petersburg, by one of the female teachers. Some testimony was heard, after which the case was continued till to-day.

In the State Senate yesterday Mr. McDonald, republican, introduced a bill providing for furnishing free school books to the children of the public schools. The bill authorizes the State board of education to contract with the lowest responsible bidder on or before June 1, 1888, and annually thereafter for such books as may be needed in the schools.

An explosion occurred in a drugstore in North Danville, owned by C. D. Gitt, yesterday, which at one time threatened a serious fire. Mr. Gitt had filled his large show-window with Christmas goods, including a lot of fireworks. By some means the latter exploded, causing persons in the neighborhood to believe that dynamite had invaded the city. Mr. Gitt, assisted by several other parties, succeeded in putting out the flames. Everything in the window was destroyed and the glass shattered.

Mr. W. L. Royall has been granted permission to appear before the finance committee of the legislature to discuss the State debt question. It is said that it has been intimated by those authorized to speak that if the tax receivable coupon feature is allowed to remain, and \$27,000 paid due coupons of a class not recognized under the Riddleberger bill as included, the bondholders may accept that plan as a basis of a settlement of the debt. Nearly all the members of the legislature say that no settlement will be made which recognizes the tax receivability of coupons.

AN INDIANA GHOST.—Bartholomew county, Ind., and particularly that part of it in the vicinity of Hope and Hartsville and Columbus, has for four or five weeks past been shivering at ghosts and their unannounced appearance. In December, 1885, George Cooper was foully murdered, and next morning his mangled and mutilated body was found by the roadside, about half way between Hartsville and Columbus. It has never been discovered who committed the murder, and the tragedy had been almost forgotten until it was revived about four weeks ago by the appearance of Cooper's spirit at the place where his body was found. At that time Andrew Hitchcock was driving a livery team belonging to Bennett Patterson, of Columbus, on his way to Hartsville. When the wood where Cooper's body was found was reached, the team suddenly stopped, and then violently lunged toward the roadside, almost upsetting the buggy. Hitchcock naturally looked to see what had frightened the horses, and was himself so scared that his hair stood straight up, and he became so weak that he could scarcely retain his hold on the reins, for there at the roadside stood Cooper's ghost staring blackly into space. The affrighted horses were not stopped nor their speed slackened by Hitchcock until he arrived at a destination. Hitchcock drove sixteen miles out of his way to get back to Columbus rather than return by the direct road and run the risk of again being confronted by the ghost. Since that time the same agitation has been seen, no fewer than four or five reputable farmers having been frightened out of their wits by the sudden appearance, like the ghost of poor Hamlet's father, of this spectral visitor. There seems to be no special hour for the visitation, the ghost having been seen according to reports as early as 11 o'clock at night and as late as 10 o'clock in the morning, while one well known and reputable gentleman, Joshua Hinch, declares that he saw the apparition once at midday. The Hartsville road is now seldom travelled after dark save by a few of the more fearless. Perhaps the most interesting feature of this story, especially to those who in spite of evidence are incredulous, is an expressed belief by not a few people that the murderer will eventually be made known by the spirit of the murdered man.

A contract has been executed for the immediate removal of the immense plant of the United States Rolling Stock Company from Urbana, Ohio, to Decatur, Ala. This company will employ over 1,000 men in the manufacture of railway cars for supplying Southern railroads. The United States Rolling Stock Company also agree to establish their general repair shops at Decatur for the 4,000 cars they are now leasing to different railroads.

LETTER FROM RICHMOND.

[Special Cor. of the Alexandria *Gazette*.]

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 16, 1887.—The bill to amend and re-enact the act approved May 6th, 1887, entitled an act to incorporate the Mineral Railroad Company which has been introduced in the Senate by Mr. Moore is somewhat different from the original bill. The original bill provided for the construction of a road from West Virginia to Strasburg. The amendment proposes the construction of a road from West Virginia to Alexandria, and several new corporations. The corporations named in the bill now pending are John P. Agnew, Park Agnew, M. B. Harlow, Charles W. Pickley, John B. Smoot, Archibald Greulesse, Eppa Hutton, Jefferson Chandler, H. L. Horton, J. S. B. Thompson, John R. Reavis, Frank A. Reed, Thomas Moore and L. W. Reid. The road is to be called the Alexandria and Charleston Railroad Company. The capital stock of the company, for constructing, equipping and operating that part of its road in Virginia shall be \$1,000,000, with power to increase it not exceeding \$300,000 per mile for each mile that may be constructed. The shares shall be at \$100 or \$50, the company may determine. The bill as telegraphed yesterday will be considered by the committee on roads next Tuesday night.

The republicans are still harping on the question of free books for free schools. A committee of the last General Assembly reported that these books will cost \$800,000 a year. Mighty big figures for Virginia to expelment with in these piping times of debt talk.

The bill to establish a normal school at Williamsburg in connection with William and Mary College is very favorably thought of. The bill was introduced to-day by Senator S. C. C. O. Williams and Mary College exists now only in name. The college is regularly opened in order to keep the property from reverting back to the heirs of people who died nearly three hundred years ago. The glories of the old college as an educational institution were swept away with the war, but the memories which cluster about it will continue to live in history. The buildings are there but the educators have disappeared. By a curious provision in the charter of the college it must not be used for any other purpose than an institution of learning. E. O. P.

Letter from Fauquier.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria *Gazette*.]

MARSHALL, Dec. 16.—With us the first month of the winter season has been marked by lovely weather, allowing the farmers to gather in the corn crop and to have a great deal of ploughing done in field and garden. The merchants are making ready sales of Christmas notions. Messrs. Whitig & Clark have dissolved, perhaps to make some fresh start in the spring. Our public school building will soon have added to it a handsome wing for the accommodation of the juveniles, who already anticipate their Christmas holiday. A festival for the benefit of the Sunday school scholars will be held at the Methodist church, and on Wednesday, the 22d inst., a series of religious services will commence at the Presbyterian church, to be concluded with Communion on Christmas day, Sunday.

Lately there have been in our midst two evangelists, Revs. Messrs. Duncan and Burdick, and Rev. J. C. C. Newton, of Warrenton, during the past week has preached several times in the Methodist church. Your correspondent lately had a brief sojourn in Warrenton as the guest of Mr. Newton, and with him was handsomely breakfasted on choice game at Major E. Taylor Scott's hospitable home. His accomplished wife it may be remembered, was the heroine, during the late war, of an episode described in "Partisan Life with Mosby," with illustration presenting Mrs. Scott, seated by the side of her little son, calmly waiting the burning of "Glen Welly," which a federal officer threatened to execute, but wisely desisted from. We found Warrentonians jubilant over the triumph of their fellow townsman, Major John Scott, Commonwealth's attorney. The Major has the look at least, of ten years more youthfulness since the U. S. Supreme Court's decision reverses Judge Bond, and some of his admirers think that he is deserving of gubernatorial honors. The rejoicing is universal that Mahoneism is now a dead issue in Virginia, that Mr. Barbour will receive the well-merited reward of election to the U. S. Senate, and that President Cleveland's re-election will be assured by the vote of the solid South.

We felt favored to attend the first meeting of the season of the young people's literary club, of Warrenton. The lecture delivered on the occasion, for the benefit, of course, of the "wets," was on the medical and scientific aspects of the temperance question. In conclusion, the patrons of the *Gazette* in this community send Christmas greeting to the editor, with the hope, in sailor parlance, that he may never get to leeward or aplice the main brace too often, and when the seas are smooth and the winds fair carry sail and crack on, and when the seas are rough and the winds high and adverse, shorten sail and lay to, that thus both in safety may reach the haven towards which we are all rapidly steering.

FACTILE.—[From the Louisville *Courier-Journal*.]—"The Army of the James" will not all vote for Blaine.

From Pennsylvania, the American home of discontent and strikes, comes a report that the table glassware workers are about to go out. Married pairs who use table glassware in domestic discussions may be forced to control their tempers by the exhaustion of their ammunition in the midst of the strike.

With their Supreme Court gone over to State rights, and many of their best men favoring tariff reform, the republicans are having no easy task in pulling themselves together.
When Cupid gambols over the counters of a bank, and the cashier gambles on the margin of a wheat pit, the depositors do well to withdraw their cash and put it in a sock.

The Governor of Delaware owns eleven farms in that State. The name of the owner of the other farm, is not given.

LIST OF LETTERS.

The following is a list of the letters remaining in the Alexandria Va., postoffice December 17. Persons calling for letters will please say they are advertised.

Advertised letters, not called for within thirty days, will be sent to the dead letter office.
Bancroft, Miss Mary A. Laws, Sydney
Basking, C. E. Moore, Miss Clara
Bruce, John T. McKinney, Chas
Brenner, Lucy A. Monro, H. M.
Davis, Edward Moorman, James
Ernest, Edwin Payton, William
Henshaw, Edith Bore, Miss Lucinda
Houghton, Leonard Thomas, Mrs. Mary
Henderson, Harry Tyler, Miss George
Johnson, Mrs. Agnes Wilson, Miss Carrie
Johnson, James Wheeler, Mrs. Josephine
Lewis, George Young, Miss Hattie
W. W. HERBERT, P. M.

DIED.

On the 16th instant, at Thornton station, Fairfax county, Va., ANNE ROSS, the beloved wife of Joseph Thornton, in the sixty-sixth year of her age. Her funeral will take place on Monday, the 19th instant, at St. Paul's cemetery, Alexandria, at 2 o'clock p. m.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

Vessels carrying coal have raised their freight rates.

The Marquis of Lorne is seriously ill with a disease of the throat.

John Howson, the well known comedian, died in Troy, N. Y., yesterday.

Mr. Lloyd, president of the American coal company died in New York last Tuesday.

The resolution finally agreed to by the House of Representatives yesterday fixed the date of adjournment for the 22d inst.

The White Sulphur Springs case is on trial before Judges Bond and Jackson, sitting as of the United States Circuit Court for West Virginia.

State's Attorney Kerr, of Baltimore, has decided to abandon further prosecution of the case of Walter L. Kitton, indicted for felonious assault upon Miss Henrietta S. Powell last summer.

A collision occurred last night in New York harbor between the O. D. Dominion steamship Breakwater and the ferryboat Pavonia. The steamer was not much hurt, but the ferryboat was smashed up, and several passengers were seriously and it is feared fatally injured.

Wm. Donopon, an oysterman, living in St. Michael's, Md., and over 75 years old, went out on the river in a canoe on Wednesday. The canoe was found the next day on the Miles river neck shore, with Donopon lying in the bottom of it in an unconscious state. He had been paralyzed, and died the next day.

Senator Evans was yesterday chosen chairman of the New York convention of republican clubs. Resolutions were offered protesting against Lamar as a justice of the Supreme Bench. There are 312 clubs in the convention. The platform adopted declares for a protective tariff and denounces the President's message as a partisan speech.

The steel cruiser Chicago was subjected to the contract trial on Long Island sound yesterday, and her performance exceeded all expectation. The members of the board who accompanied the ship, express satisfaction at the results attained. The speed attained was slightly in excess of 151 knots an hour. The boilers furnished all the steam required without the use of forced draught.

Dr. A. W. Huckel, a prominent physician of Philadelphia, was arrested yesterday, charged with bigamy. Mrs. Josephine Roberts testified that she was married to Dr. Huckel Nov. 7, 1886, he representing that he had been divorced. He subsequently told her that he was obliged by an order of the court to return to his first wife, and after thinking over the matter for a while she had him arrested.

The courts a few days ago decided that Hyde Park was a portion of Chicago, and Mayor Roche sent his officers down and took possession of the fire and police departments. Mayor Pierce, of Hyde Park, refused to give up the village records, and the Chicago police yesterday went to the municipal offices, told the clerks and other inmates to move out and then locked the doors. The Hyde Parkites made a protest.

A Warning.

Two weeks ago we announced that Mr. Stretchley Chinn, of Middleburg, had been deuced by a sharper; since that time we have learned what are reported to be some of the facts in the case, and publish them: "It seems that a young man, claiming to be an agent for the sale of grain fans, approached Mr. Chinn and endeavored to induce him to act as local agent for the sale of the fans. Mr. Chinn promptly refused, but the sharper persisted until he got him to consent to receive a lot of fans and store them in his barn, and for every one he sold he was to receive \$10. Mr. Chinn, however, assured the man that he would not exert himself much to sell them. But the man insisted that this would get them introduced into the community, in charge of an influential citizen and that was all that was needed, for so valuable were the machines that the people would soon haste to purchase, &c. Having thus made a very fair verbal contract, the sharper suggested that Mr. Chinn give him something to show for it, at the same time producing a form of contract which he submitted to Mr. Chinn. It being nearly dark Mr. C. could not see very well, and requested the plausible party to read it for him. Of course he was very obliging, and read a contract which was quite satisfactory to Mr. C., who then signed his name to it and the happy swindler got away from that vicinity in a hurry. Mr. C. also kept a copy of the contract which he laid away carefully and failed to find it when he wanted it; but when he opened the family Bible to read a chapter, there lay the contract. He took it up and read it carefully, and for the first time learned its true character. He then saw that he had signed a contract to take and pay for a large number of the fanning mills. He at once hurried in search of the sharper and found him in Warrenton (we believe) and had him arrested; but so solid was the bond that he could not break it, nor at all away from it. The swindler finally agreed to compromise by reducing the number of mills to 25, which Mr. C. accepted as a final settlement of the affair."—*London Telegraph*.

A teacher in a certain city asked one of her scholars the meaning of the word "vicissitude."
"Change," was the reply.
"That is right," said the teacher; "now give me a sentence with the word vicissitude in it."
"My mother sent me to the store to vicissitude a dollar bill."

"Why, what are you putting that on my feet for," asked a man with a heavy cold. "Why, to draw the cold out of your head," answered the considerate nurse. "The deuce you say! I would rather have it stay where it is than to be drawn the whole length of my body." At any rate there is a more pleasant method than that, go and get me a bottle of Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup.

C. L. Carmony, who hired a team in Hagersown, Md., and did not return it, and who was subsequently arrested in Virginia and taken back and placed in jail, yesterday at a large gain in his left arm with an old razor. He said he was determined to kill himself because of the disgrace he had brought upon his family.

"Histories make men wise, poets witty." But what in the world does a man want with either when he has sprained his ankle. No sir, not these nor these! Give him but one bottle of Salvation Oil. The greatest cure on earth for pain.

TRICYCLE, for girl or boy, steel wheels; manufacturer's price, \$15; offered at \$7.50; new and in good order at
dec12 AMOS B. SLAYMAKER'S.

CORN KNIVES and HOOKS, best quality, just received at 325 King street, corner of Royal; wholesale and retail.
J. T. CRIGHTON & SON.

GLOVES! GLOVES! A new assortment of the best Kid and Dogskin, embroidered back, lined and unlined, received this day at
dec13 AMOS B. SLAYMAKER'S.



TO-DAY'S TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

[Special Dispatch to the Alexandria *Gazette*.]

RICHMOND, Va., Dec. 17.—The bill introduced in the Senate by Mr. Moore to incorporate the Falls Church and Potomac R. R. Company passed that body to-day.

A joint meeting of the financial committees of the two branches was held this morning, before which Mr. W. L. Royall, representing the bondholders, appeared. He merely requested that there be a suspension of litigation under the coupon crusher act until a conference could be had. He submitted no proposition. A sub-committee of the joint committee will meet this afternoon to put the matter into shape for discussion. The sentiment of the members of the joint committee is opposed to any settlement except upon the basis of the Riddleberger bill.

The House is discussing a proposition to abolish the office of register of ships.

B. P. O.

Almost a Tragedy.

STROUT, City, Ia., Dec. 17.—The prosecution of the "holes in the wall" came near ending in a tragedy yesterday. Constable Curtis, who has been a terror to evil doers, since his election, a year ago, made a raid on O'Connell's place, where he found a keg of whiskey in a large burglar-proof safe, the door of which was open. The proprietor made a rush for the safe to lock it as the officers came in, but was secured before he reached it. While struggling with him, several Germans, headed by Nick Panley, a brewery employee, rushed in and tried to kill him. Constable Ferguson, who had made his way behind the bar, leveled his revolver at Panley and asked who it was that wanted to shoot. Panley submitted at once. Curtis let go of O'Connell when the crowd came in, and reaching for his revolver, squared himself for the expected attack.

In the meantime the safe was closed and locked. It was soon opened, however, and the keg taken into court as were several persons arrested in the place. Repeated threats have been made against Curtis but he pays no attention to them and continues to hunt for contraband whiskey. If he meets the fate of the Rev. Mr. Haddock, it will be no surprise.

Republican Club Convention.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—The 31 day of the convention of republican clubs at Chickering Hall opened with the ranks thrown in shape. They were no longer clubs from everywhere that had no common bond except their allegiance to the republican party. They had been resolved into a national league whose component parts were the State leagues into which the clubs of each State had organized. Shortly after assembling Mr. C. M. Dapow sent in a letter declining the presidency of the league. James P. Foster, of New York, was subsequently elected president of the national league.

John S. Wise, of Virginia, was elected one of the vice presidents. The convention adjourned sine die at 12:50. Among the resolutions adopted was one disapproving and condemning President Cleveland's action in nominating L. Q. C. Lamar for the Supreme Court bench of the United States, and recommending that the republican members of the United States Senate vote against the confirmation of the same.

Fatal Affray.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 17.—At the village of Two High, Tex., yesterday morning ex detective J. E. Long shot and instantly killed one Bain, an opposition grocer. Rivalry in business was the cause.

Early yesterday morning at Paul's Valley, Ind. T., two citizens became involved in a fight, and one of them struck the other over the head with a coal oil lamp, breaking the vessel and setting fire to the stranger's clothing. Before the flames could be extinguished the unfortunate man was burned to death.

The European Situation.

BRUSSELS, Dec. 17.—Le Nord, the Russian organ here, in an article on the European situation, says: "Russia does not want to make war and will not do so. She does, however, claim the fullest right to adopt measures to render disastrous any invasion by an aggressor. Russia would cease to be the independent and great power she intends remaining if she permitted an account to be required of her concerning the steps she thinks fit to take regarding her security."

The Crown Prince's Condition.

SAN RENO, Dec. 17.—A bulletin issued by Dr. Mackenzie states that the appearance of the Crown Prince's throat confirms the previous bulletins issued by the physician in charge. A small growth has made its appearance on the left ventricular band. The tumor which formed in October has diminished in size. The other doctors in attendance on the Crown Prince have agreed to the statements contained in Dr. Mackenzie's bulletin.

Raid on Gamblers.

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 17.—Dispatches from Hot Springs, Ark., say the police have made a descent on "sk in game" gamblers there and run them all out of town. It has been discovered that young Hopkins, who suicided in Kansas City a day or two ago, was swindled out of \$3,000 in money and all of his diamonds by them, and that several other visitors have been "beat" out of considerable sums.

A Horrible Deed.

COLUMBUS, Ark., Dec. 17.—Charles Whitsett, a half wild boy, aged 13, went out walking with his young brother, aged 9, and his sister, aged 6. He returned home alone and informed his mother he had killed them, showing a large knife with which he had done the deed. Investigation found the boy and girl stretched out in pools of blood with their heads cut off.

Collision.

LONDON, Dec. 17.—During a gale on the Clyde last night the British steamer Man-toban, Capt. Dunlap, from Philadelphia, collided with the British steamer Alcides, Capt. Rollo, from Baltimore. The Man-toban's bow was stove and the Alcides was cut down to the water line. Both vessels were taken to the tail of the bank.

Ferry's Assaultant.

PARIS, Dec. 17.—Aubertin, the man who attempted to assassinate M. Ferry in the hall of the Chamber of Deputies, was arraigned before a magistrate for a preliminary examination to-day. While the examination was progressing the prisoner was attacked with dementia and was removed to a mad house.

Daring Robbery.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Dec. 17.—One of the most daring robberies on record was perpetrated here last night. At 7 o'clock a young man broke a window of C. Berg's jewelry store at 31 and Cedar streets, seized \$1,000 worth of watches and diamonds and made his escape.

Burned to Death.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 17.—A special dispatch from Hamburg, Erid county, says George Bauerli, aged 61, and his wife, aged 58, were burned to death early this morning. Their house burned and the couple were too infirm to make their escape.

To Aid the Printers.

CHICAGO, Dec. 17.—The bricklayers and stone-masons' union, the strongest and most wealthy of all the trades unions in the city, adopted a resolution last night to aid the striking printers both morally and financially.

Mr. Higgins' Successor.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 17.—Secretary Fairchild has decided to appoint Mr. Perry C. Smith, of New Jersey, as Chief of the Appointment Division of the Treasury Department, in place of Mr. Eugene Higgins, resigned. Mr. Smith is a cousin of the Secretary and at present holds the position of Disbursing Clerk of the Post Office Department.

MONETARY AND COMMERCIAL.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—The stock market opened heavy to weak this morning, most stocks being from 1/4 to 1/2 percent below last evening's figures. The subsequent trading was intensely dull and almost bare of features. The general list was firm, but fluctuations were so narrow that the little business done possessed no special significance, while a large number of stocks were not traded in at all. A drooping tendency appeared late in the hour, but at 11 o'clock the market was very dull and steady at slight fractions better than the opening figures. Money easy at 3/4.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—The weekly bank statement shows the following changes:
Reserve, increase, \$1,721,000
Loans, decrease, 2,982,400
Specie, increase, 724,000
Legal tenders, increase, 962,500
Deposits, decrease, 138,800
Circulation, increase, 800
The banks now hold in excess of the 25 per cent. rule, 7,931,700.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 17.—Virginia 6s consolidated —; past due coupons —; 10-10; 36; new 3s 65 bid to-day.

ALEXANDRIA MARKET, December 17.—The Flour markets are firm and steady, and we note an improved demand from jobbing traders to supply the Christmas trade. Wheat is rather more active at a fractional advance; the receipts to-day were small and were sold at the season's range in figures—75 to 80 for common to fair, and 81 to 84 for good; no choice milling samples have been offered for several days past. Corn is quiet at 51 for damp, and 52 1/2 for dry new. Rye and Oats are strong and active. Butter, Eggs, Pork, Poultry and other produce are in good demand and without change.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 17.—Cotton firm and quiet; middling 10 1/2. Flour steady and quiet. Wheat—Southern steady and firm; red 90 1/2; amber 92 1/2; Western easier and very dull; No 2 winter red spot 83 1/2; Jan 84 1/2; 85 1/2; Feb 87 1/2; May 92 1/2; 93 1/2. Corn—Southern easy and quiet; white 53 1/2; yellow 53 1/2; Western lower and dull; mixed spot and new 54 1/2; 55 1/2; year 54 1/2; Jan 55 1/2; 56; Feb 57 1/2; March 58 1/2; asked; steamer 64 asked. Oats firm and quiet; Southern and Penna 34 1/2; Western white 35 1/2; do mixed 36 1/2. Rye higher and firm at 63 1/2. Provisions firm and quiet. Coffee steady; Rio cargoes ordinary to fair 18 1/2; 19 1/2. Whiskey steady at \$1 1/4 to 1 1/2. Other articles unchanged.

NEW YORK, Dec. 17.—Cotton dull; uplands 10 1/2; Orleans 10 1/2; futures opened at a y, but closed quiet and steady. Flour quiet and unchanged. Wheat higher. Corn better. Pork steady at \$15 25 to 15 50; old mess Pork steady at \$14 50 to 15 1/2. Lard firmer at \$8 10.

CHICAGO, Dec. 17, 11 a. m.—The leading futures read as follows: May Wheat 83 1/2; May Corn 54 1/2; 55 1/2; May Oats 33 1/2; 34 1/2; May Pork \$15